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United States Department of Agriculture



Hanging Lake— FDT 1850

Difficulty: More Difficult
Trail Use: Very High
Length: 1.2 miles
Elevation: Starts at 6387 feet, ends at 7323 feet, highest point 7323 feet
Elevation Gain: +1096 feet -160 feet = +936 feet
Open To: Hiking

Access:

- Travel 22 miles west of Eagle on I-70 to the Grizzly Creek exit in Glenwood Canyon.
- After exiting, get back on the highway going eastbound to the Hanging Lake exit.
- The trail begins 1/4 mile east of the rest area on the left just before the bridge.

Trail Highlights:

- This short, steep, scenic trail travels from the bottom of Glenwood Canyon up through Deadhorse Creek Canyon to Hanging Lake.
- * Switchbacks accommodate the rise in elevation, shortcutting them promotes erosion.
- There are several rest stops along the way. Some parts of the trail are rocky, especially in the beginning and at the end where the trail has steep stairs carved into the canyon cliff rock.
- The trail ends on a boardwalk around the lake, please do not step off the boardwalk.
- There is a short offshoot from the trail before the boardwalk that leads to Spouting Rock, where for centuries water has dissolved a passage through the limestone to exit out of a sheer cliff wall as a spectacular waterfall. This provides an excellent opportunity to cool off in the spray after the strenuous hike!
- Deadhorse Creek Canyon is a passage through millions of years of geologic history beginning with Precambrian metamorphic greenstone, schist and feldspar followed by layers of sedimentary sandstones deposited during a period of ancient seas. The upper portion of the trail is dominated by gray and white limestone also laid down by early seas.

Hanging Lake:

- This 1.5 acre lake was formed by a geologic fault which caused the lake bed to drop away from the valley floor above. Water flows into the lake over Bridal Veil Falls.
- The lake edge is built up from dissolved carbonates which are deposited on the shore as the water flows over. Body oils in the water stop this deposition— **NO SWIMMING!**
- Although trout are visible in the lake, please do not feed them - **FISHING IS PROHIBITED!**

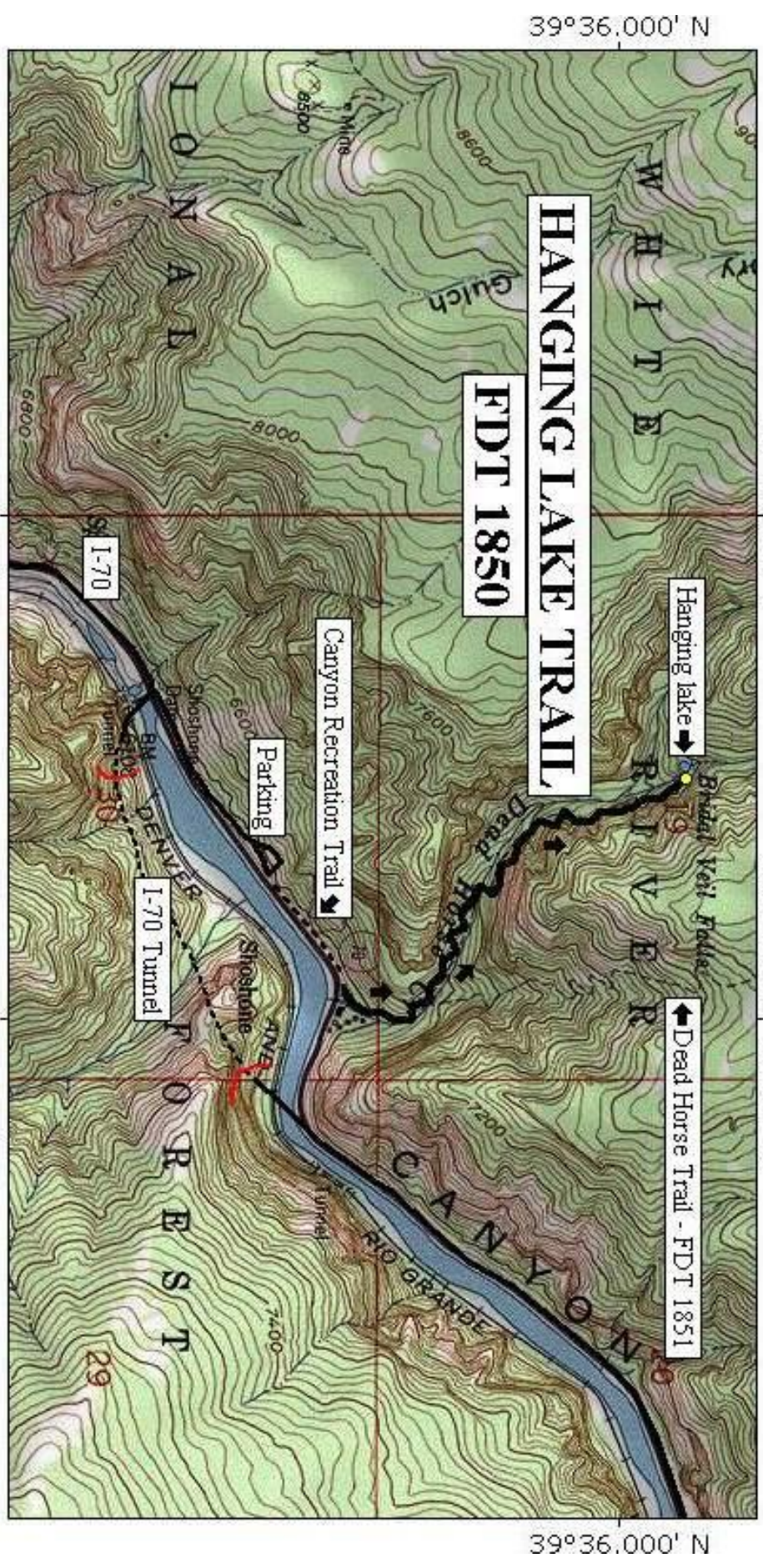
Important Information:

- **ALL DISTANCES ARE ONE WAY.**
- **DUE TO THE HIGH USE OF THIS TRAIL, DOGS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THE TRAIL.**

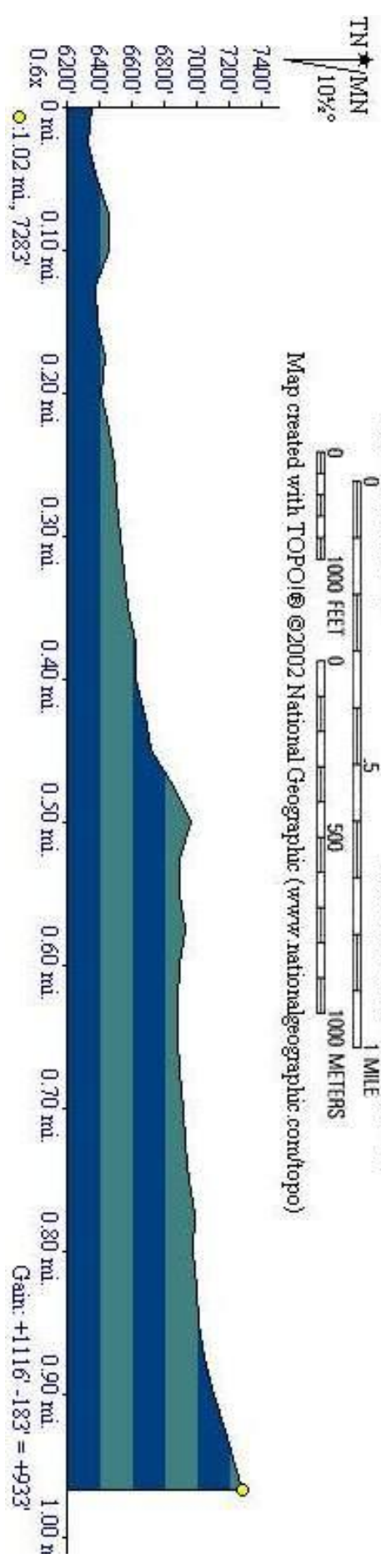
PACK IT IN—PACK IT OUT!! LEAVE NO TRACE!!

THIS MAP IS INTENDED FOR USE AS A GENERAL GUIDE ONLY, NOT FOR ACTUAL LAND NAVIGATION. THE WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST STRONGLY SUGGESTS PURCHASING A TOPOGRAPHIC TRAIL MAP AND COMPASS PRIOR TO BEGINNING A HIKING TRIP.

Topo! map printed on 05/18/11 from "COLORADO.TPO" and "Untitled.tpg"
 107°12.000' W WGS84 107°11.000' W



Map created with TOPO!® ©2002 National Geographic (www.nationalgeographic.com/topo)
 107°12.000' W WGS84 107°11.000' W



Gain: +1116' -183' = +933'